



Summer 2011

THE IBIS

A publication of
The Friends of the Lower Suwannee & Cedar Keys National Wildlife Refuges

Annual Meeting

Our largest event so far this year was the Members Annual Meeting and Refuge Open House. A crowd of more than 100 members enjoyed a gorgeous day on March 4. We raised more than \$1300 at the Silent Auction. New officers and Board members were selected and installed. Mark Gluckman and Russ Hall described the Paddling Guide Project they are leading.

Best of all, we met Sandra Smith and Linda Alexander. They own the Vista Camp property and have donated it to become part of the Refuge. It is the several acres of

private property that is right at the end of the road into the Refuge offices, straight beyond the River Trail parking area. They have life tenancy, but rather than bequeathing it to family members, they have donated it to the Refuge. They welcomed all of us to visit the property as part of the day's activities. It will make a phenomenal addition to our refuge. Perhaps it will even give us a chance to have an official Visitors' Center in the future. What a spectacular gift. We are all grateful, for ourselves, and for future refuge friends and visitors as well.



Sandra Roe Smith and Linda Roe Alexander, the donors of the Vista Camp property, react to the collage presented by Refuge Manager John Kasbohm. *Photo by Russ Hall*

The Officers and Board Members

Joan Stephens decided to step down from the Board. She is our founding president, and continues as our Membership Chair. We will greatly miss her humor, steady vision, and sense of the Refuge's value and purpose at all the meetings. Thanks, Joan, for your leadership.



Joan Stephens, founding president, listens to Jay Bushnell, past president.
Photo by Tom Liebert

The current Board members are:

Peg Hall, president

Jay Bushnell, past president

Marci Wilcox, vice president

Bob Hudson, secretary

Jerry Salamon, treasurer

Ron Black

Ed DeHaan

Sean Dowie

Mark Gluckman

Russ Hall

Richard Herman

John McPherson

Michelle Pearson

John Thalacker

The Future of the Ibis

In recent email newsletters, we asked if members would prefer also to receive the *Ibis* electronically, instead of on paper through the mail. Every response was "Yes." This allows for some new thinking about the publication.

Although a few members still will receive it in paper form, most will get it electronically. That means the *Ibis* can become more of a **Member Forum** for sharing our Refuge-related experiences and photos. The paper version will need to remain a four-page publication, but there can be additional stories and photos in the online version.

Think of stories you'd like to share about your visits to the Refuges for hunting, fishing, birding, enjoying wildflowers or butterflies, paddling, biking, or hiking. What did you see? How did it impress you? Who came along with you and what were their reactions? How do you see the Refuges adding to our quality of life and the economy of our communities?



Photo by Richard Herman



Photo by Peg Hall

Poems, essays, tales, even music will all be welcome and everything relevant can be used. In the electronic version space will be no limit. Share, share, and share. Send articles of up to 400 words. Send up to 3 photos per person. If we need to adapt after the fall issue, we will. But for the fall issue, let's all think of stories and photos to share.

You can send your submissions to friends@friendsofrefuges.org. The deadline is September 30. If you do not have computer access and want to submit a story or photo, let's talk and try to figure something out.

Our Email Newsletter

Since November 2010, we have posted an email newsletter every other week to keep members and potential members informed about Friends activities and Refuge news. Every member for whom we have a current email address receives it. If you are not receiving the electronic newsletter, please email us at friends@friendsofrefuges.org to begin receiving it.

Refuge Changes in Management

We have bid farewell to John Kasbohm. He has taken a new assignment as the refuge manager at the Sheldon-Hart Mountain NWR on the Oregon-Nevada border. Since John left in April, Karen Hillier from the Key Deer NWR in south Florida and Paul Gideon from the Pond Creek Refuge in Arizona each has been assigned as our Acting Refuge Manager for one month. Subsequently, Acting Managers have been coming in for one-week assignments. The selection process for our permanent manager is underway.

Friends 2011 Activities and Events

Friends has been active throughout the spring and into the summer. Programs are being planned now for the fall months. Details about upcoming events are provided in the email newsletter and on our website, www.friendsofrefuges.org. On the website, click the [“Events”](#) tab on the homepage to find times, dates, and places.

Our ongoing series of refuge-related lectures has included:

- *Birds in Culture and Our Friends the Bats* by Ranger Pam Darty
- *All About Ticks* by Brenda Boleyn
- *Hydrology of the Northern Gulf Coast* by Ellen Raabe
- *Where Have All the Fishes Gone? Or Have They Gone?* by Carl Walker
- *Archaeology of the Refuges Region* by Ken Sassaman
- *Mosquitoes and Other Biting Friends on the Refuges* by Dan Kline



Birding and Nature Trips:

On the first Monday of each month except June, July, and August, Friends life member Joyce Tarnow leads a Birding and Nature Trip. In January the venue was the north end of the Lower Suwannee Refuge. In February, it was Shired Island in the rain. In March, we were at the River Trail near refuge headquarters. In April the trip was about Butterfly and Bird Identification along the Loop Road near refuge headquarters. Friends life members Donna and John Thalacker led the butterfly identification. In May we went back to Shired Island...this time with no rain.

Upcoming:

On Saturday, July 9 from 9:00 to 4:00 the Refuge will host an Open House at the Seahorse Key. You need boat transportation to get to the Key and commercial services will be available from local providers all day out of Cedar Key if you do not have your own boat available.

Other activities:

- Friends held Work Days in February and March for Plant Identification along the River Trail, and freshening the Butterfly Garden near the refuge offices.
- Friends members volunteered to help with the sampling and tagging of Gulf Sturgeon in the Suwannee River for a USGS research project.
- Members greeted visitors to the Friends Booths at the Cedar Key Arts Festival and the Suwannee Stone Crab Festival in April.

- Members Ron and Christine Black have organized a Friends presence several days a week at Shell Mound to greet visitors and provide information.
- Led by Ranger Pam Darty, we had a Friends Paddle Trip to Atsena Otie in April.
- In May, there was a Cedar Key Airboat Trip with Friends life member Bob Hudson.



Membership

Below is a list of the Life Members and 2011 Members of the Friends. Please check your name and let us know at friends@friendsprefuges.org of any corrections to make. If you have not yet renewed for 2011 and would like to there is a form included in the paper version, or you can [click here](#).

Life Members

1. LaMont Albertson
2. Linda Roe Alexander
3. Valerie Bretl
4. Donna Bushnell
5. Jay Bushnell
6. Toni Collins
7. Alan Davidson
8. Tywann Davidson
9. Nath Doughtie
10. Louise Godfrey
11. Peg Hall
12. Russ Hall
13. Dale Henderson
14. Barbara Hudson
15. Bob Hudson
16. Luz Kraujalis
17. Walter Kraujalis
18. Patricia Kromer
19. Ada Lang
20. Greg Lang
21. Rick Lepore
22. Vickie Lepore
23. Marianne Mc Euen
24. Kay McCallister
25. Russ McCallister
26. Dawn Miller
27. Susan Nugent

28. Bill Salmon
29. Tony Silveira
30. Sandra Roe Smith
31. Richey Smith
32. David Steadman
33. Joan Stephens
34. Joyce Tarnow
35. Nancy Taylor
36. Donna Thalacker
37. John Thalacker
38. Sheryl Topping

2011 Members

1. Judy Adams
2. Kirby Alexander
3. Joanne Andrews
4. John Andrews
5. Betty Baker
6. Gene Baker
7. Agnes Ballard
8. John Bamford
9. Marcella Bamford
10. Barney Barnard
11. Loye Barnard
12. Sherry Beauchamp
13. Eugene Benedict
14. Christine Black
15. Ron Black
16. Ed Blazey

17. Mary Blazey
18. Joe Bolton
19. Karen Bolton
20. Gina Brown
21. Willie Brown
22. Mary Ann Burdett
23. Libby Cagle
24. Tom Chaney
25. Jim Clugston
26. Marilyn Clugston
27. Jane Connors
28. Phil Cotham
29. Mac Cox
30. Nita Cox
31. Charlotte Crawford
32. Deb Crocker
33. Jane Crowe
34. John Crowe
35. Jim Curtis
36. Linda Curtis
37. Ed DeHaan
38. Joyce DeHaan
39. Terry Demott
40. Dick Dionne
41. Jackie Dionne
42. Molly Dougherty
43. Carmelo Echevarria
44. Bill Erwin

45. Lynda Erwin
46. Robert Farmer
47. Dick Ferraro
48. Chris Flanagan
49. Joe Flanagan
50. Sue Forsythe
51. Kathleen Fotterall
52. Law Fotterall
53. Don Gambrells
54. Sue Gambrells
55. Bruce Glenn
56. Leslie Glenn
57. Lee Gluckman
58. Mark Gluckman
59. Daniel Gouge
60. Elaine Hammond
61. Jack Hardee
62. Tina Hardee
63. Jeffrey Hardestry
64. Sandra Harmon
65. Phil Hazle
66. Linda Headley
67. Bill Healy
68. Martha Healy
69. Anne Herman
70. Richard Herman
71. Clara Hess
72. James Hess
73. B.J. Hodge
74. L. Clark Hodge
75. Allan Hodgkins
76. Jack Holbrook
77. Jean Holbrook
78. Joan Horn and Family
79. Kathy Hudson
80. Shannon Hudson
81. Susan Jacobson
82. George Johnson
83. Judith Johnson
84. Beth Colaner Kinney
85. Don Kinney
86. Wm Kronenberg
87. Ron Lagueux
88. Sherry Liebert
89. Tom Liebert
90. John Lohde
91. Anita Long
92. Mark Long
93. Gil Lucas
94. Gina Lucas
95. Edwin McCook
96. Roger McDaniels
97. Clare McGuinness
98. Carol McKinstry
99. Dawn McKinstry
100. Robert McKinstry
101. William McKinstry
102. John McPherson
103. Michael Meeks
104. Bill Merkel
105. Terry Merkel
106. Anne Miller
107. Barbara Mines
108. Harold Mines
109. Duane Morse
110. Pamela Morse
111. Chris Parr
112. Ronnie Parr
113. Mark Paules
114. Michelle Pearson
115. Tom Pearson
116. Alice Phillips
117. Joseph Pittman
118. Jean Rigg
119. Bill Rogers
120. Donna Rogers
121. David Roquemore
122. Susan Roquemore
123. Perran Ross
124. Jerry Salamon
125. Nancy Salamon
126. Joan Selby
127. Ralph Selby
128. Cathy Simpkins
129. Douglas Smith
130. Dorothy Starnes
131. Earl Starnes
132. Bill Stephens
133. Charlene Stephens
134. Jaime Stephens
135. John Stephens
136. Julie Stephens
137. Troy Stephens
138. Judy Stockman
139. John Tate
140. Laurie Tate
141. Bob Treat
142. Jeri Treat
143. Jane Walker
144. Bob Ware
145. Sharon Ware
146. Kirk Webster
147. Linnette Webster
148. Jim Wilcox
149. Marcie Wilcox
150. Susanne Wildner
151. Barbara Winter
152. Allan Woodward
153. Susan Woodward

**Friends of the Lower Suwannee & Cedar Keys National Wildlife Refuges
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

NAME:

ADDRESS:

PHONE:

EMAIL:

Please check the category of membership

- Swallow-tailed Kite \$1000 or more, life membership
- Bald Eagle \$500-999, life membership
- River Otter \$250-\$499, life membership
- White Ibis \$20 annual family membership
- Gopher Tortoise \$10 annual individual membership

Please check any areas of interest or special training.

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Advocacy | <input type="checkbox"/> Photography |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Birding | <input type="checkbox"/> Education |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Paddling | <input type="checkbox"/> Fishing/hunting |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Biking | <input type="checkbox"/> Flora/Fauna identification |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Publications | <input type="checkbox"/> Board or Committee, |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Programs | <input type="checkbox"/> Heritage/history |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ | |

I understand and agree to abide by the Friends' Code of Ethics, which is available on our webpage.

Signature

Date:

Please make check out to the Friends of the Lower Suwannee & Cedar Keys NWR.

Mail to: Friends of the Lower Suwannee & Cedar Keys NWR,
P.O. Box 1306, Chiefland, FL 32644

Find us on the web at: www.friendsofrefuges.org

From: The Friends of the Lower Suwannee & Cedar
Keys National Wildlife Refuges
P.O. Box 1306
Chiefland, Florida 32644

